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SCHOOL OPENS JANUARY 15

Opening of Elementary Grades Postponed to Tuesday of Next Week—High School May Not Re-open This Spring—Only One Teacher Left in High School Faculty.

Opening of the graded school, elementary grades, has been postponed until Tuesday of next week, January 15; unless something unexpected happens, it will not be possible to open the high school at that time and it is very probable that the high school will not be reopened at all this spring. It was first intended, as has been stated in The Robesonian, to begin the spring term today after the Christmas recess, but owing to the unsettled condition of the weather, to some cleaning up that has to be done, etc., it has been decided that it is best to postpone opening until Tuesday of next week. It has been reported that there was a boiler explosion at the graded school house, but that is a mistake. There has been no trouble resulting from the recent cold except a few split pipes which a dollar or so will repair.

The outlook for opening the high school at all this spring is gloomy. Prof. R. H. Taylor of Castalia, who has been principal of the high school for the past year and a half, has resigned, and it is understood that he will enlist in the army soon. Mr. Carl Nye of Orum, teacher of English, also has resigned to enlist. Another vacancy is expected in the high school faculty this week, so that only one teacher will be left in the high school. Supt. R. E. Sentelle has been making every possible effort to secure teachers to fill these vacancies, but he has not been able to get in touch with anybody yet. Wires to teachers hereabouts have brought no response. Teachers have gone to the army and female teachers are accepting more lucrative positions in the business world.

Supt. Sentelle says the work in the high school during the fall was more unsatisfactory than it has ever been before. Pupils seem excited by the unusual conditions and little inclined to do school work. He thinks that many of the high school pupils might just as well be employed in the business world; and, anyway, it is very probable that it will not be possible to reopen the high school this spring on account of not being able to secure competent teachers.

Fire at Pastime Quickly Extinguished.

Fire which started from an oil stove in the office of Mr. H. H. Anderson, in the rear of the Pastime theatre building, Elm street, at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon was extinguished before serious damage was done. It is supposed the oil stove exploded. The office, a small room, was practically air tight and when Mr. Anderson opened the door to the office the flames spread rapidly. He managed to get the stove out of the building and had extinguished the flames before the fire company arrived on the scene.

Mr. Anderson's hands were badly burned and Master Lenox Thompson, who works at the theatre, also burned his hands. The office and fixtures were damaged to the amount of \$75. The show had opened when the fire occurred and quite a number of people were in the building.

Cases of Contagious Diseases in Robeson During Month of December.

The following cases of contagious diseases in Robeson during the month of December were reported to County Health Officer W. A. McPhaul:

Typhoid fever—T. A. Parnell, Lonnie Bullard, both Lumberton, R. F. D.; smallpox—E. M. Britt, Lumberton; diphtheria—P. J. Benton, Lumberton; measles—E. W. Bass, Lumberton, R. F. D.; Peter Bridgman, Orum, John Lewis, Will Taylor, A. B. Miller, Billie Moodie, T. S. Smith, H. L. Boyd—all of Fairmont; cerebro-spinal meningitis—Dannie Chavis, Rennert, R. 1.

Robbers Enter Store at St. Paul.

Robbers entered the A. R. McEachern Co.'s store at St. Paul Friday night and relieved the company of around \$400 worth of merchandise. Entrance was made by breaking out a window in the rear of the building. Among the things missed from the store were several suits of clothes, silk cloth, flour and a supply of tobacco. The robbers were traveling in an automobile and backed the car up to the window, and, it is supposed, loaded the goods on the car.

Fell Dead on Street at Clio.

Mr. P. J. Smith, aged about 58 years, fell dead on the streets of his home town, Clio, S. C., Thursday afternoon. Deceased had been complaining of feeling bad for two or three days and it is thought death was due to heart trouble.

Deceased was a brother-in-law of Mesdames R. E. Lewis and W. P. McAllister of Lumberton. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and Mr. McAllister attended the funeral Friday afternoon.

The condition of Mr. J. F. Flowers, who underwent an operation for appendicitis at Johns Hopkins hospital, Baltimore, Md., several days ago, is reported as favorable.

PASSENGER SERVICE

VICE CUT DOWN

20 Per Cent of Through Trains on Eastern Roads Discontinued—Releases Engines and Crews for Hauling Freight—Public Asked to Cut Out Unnecessary Travel.

To free locomotives and crews for the more important freight transportation, 20 per cent of the through passenger trains on the eastern railroads were ordered to be discontinued Sunday by approval of Director-General McAdoo. The running schedule of others were ordered reduced to lower speed to facilitate the movement of freight trains.

This policy, announced Saturday night by the director-general, will be gradually extended to affect train service throughout the country. Fast trains between New York and Chicago and St. Louis, and between Chicago and Southern and Western points probably will be the next to be affected. Individual railroads will take the initiative in suggesting curtailments, but these will be approved by the director-general in most cases.

In approving new passenger schedules Mr. McAdoo ordered a number of modifications, resulting in retention of more parlor cars than the railroads had planned.

Mr. McAdoo appealed to the public in a statement Saturday night to refrain from travel as much as possible, but promised that no commuter trains or others necessary for proper maintenance of business life in cities will be eliminated.

Congress this week will take up the railroad bills introduced Friday, following President Wilson's message on government operation, and discussion Saturday among members of both houses indicated that a marked difference of opinion whether the government control should extend only for a definite period after the end of the war, or indefinitely until Congress orders otherwise.

Coal continued to go forward ahead of other freight.

RED CROSS CHAPTER

Meeting for Organization Will be Held at Court House Friday Evening—J. W. Bailey Will Speak—Additional Members.

A Red Cross chapter will be organized at the court house Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Mr. J. W. Bailey of Raleigh, one of the best-known and most entertaining speakers in the State, will be the speaker of the occasion, which gives ample assurance that there will be nothing dull or perfunctory about the presentation of the claims of the Red Cross for the hearty support of every patriotic citizen.

A good crowd is expected at this meeting. The court room should be packed. All who have given their names for membership in this chapter and the public generally are invited to hear Mr. Bailey's address. Ladies and business men are especially invited, not only of Lumberton but of the mill villages and the surrounding country.

Ladies and children as well as men are invited and urged to join the Red Cross at this time. But whether you are prepared to join or not, at least attend the meeting Friday evening and hear a good speech.

Lumberton is the only important town in the county that has not already a Red Cross chapter.

Mr. A. W. McLean, who is heading the movement for the organization of a chapter in Lumberton, has received a supply of Red Cross service flags. Every member will receive one of these flags. Red Cross buttons also will be distributed to members as soon as they are received.

Since Thursday's issue the following addition members have been handed in to The Robesonian:

Phoned in this morning by Mrs. J. R. Poole—Mesdames A. H. McLeod, Chas. Boyd, D. W. Biggs, Stinson Powell; mailed to the paper by Mr. W. H. Humphrey—W. H. Humphrey, McF. Floyd, Walter Ivey, Mrs. Fannie Warren, Minnie Talley, Roxie Warren, L. V. Edwards, R. Ivey, Belle Roberts, Mattie Weaver, Alice Ivey, Daisy Iman, Nora Britt, Mildred W. Floyd, Mrs. J. F. Alexander, Mattie Davis.

This makes a total of 328, 309 having been previously reported.

A Little Girl Willing to Give All Her Savings.

In sending in his list of names Mr. Humphrey wrote as follows:

To the Editor of The Robesonian:

I send you a few names for the Red Cross, mostly from East Lumberton. I did not collect any dues for I did not know whether the whole \$2 is expected in advance or whether it could be paid quarterly or in some other installments. I am afraid if it is ruled that all must be paid in advance that that will preclude quite a number of our mill people who really want to be members.

One little girl, Roxie Warren, is so anxious to become a member she is willing to give all of her savings, \$1, and says she will pay the balance later; she is going to school and anyway is too small to work in the mill, but a smart, sweet little, patriotic girl. She is only an instance.

Very truly,
W. H. HUMPHREY.

Rev. Dr. Chas. W. Byrd, one of the most prominent ministers of the Western North Carolina conference, died at his home at Asheville, where he was pastor of Central Methodist church, Thursday following a stroke of apoplexy. He was born near Dunn and was 58 years old. His wife and one young son survive.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS

Peace Negotiations Temporarily Suspended by Germans—Considerable Activity in Arras Sector.

The peace negotiations between the Central powers and the Bolsheviki government in Russia have been "temporarily suspended" by the Germans. From the meagre advices received it appears that the rock upon which a continuation of the pourparlers split was the demand of the Russians that the conference be resumed at Stockholm, instead of at Brest-Litovsk.

Dissatisfied with the proposals for peace made by the Teutonic allies before their recess the Brest-Litovsk conference, Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister had been insistent on the deliberations being held on neutral ground instead of at the German eastern headquarters. The Germans, however, had been equally as firm in their determination not to treat with the Russians at any other place than Brest-Litovsk.

German advices Saturday were to the effect that the Bolsheviki delegates on finding that the representatives of the Teutonic allies were at Brest-Litovsk awaiting them, had started for this town, but nothing has come through to show that these "all" any foundation in fact. The decision of the Germans to discontinue the sitings was arrived at during a council held in Berlin Saturday which was attended by Field Marshal Von Hindenburg and General Von Ludendorff, first quartermaster general.

A belated dispatch from Berlin gives as the reason for the refusal of the Germans to consider Stockholm a place where peace might be advantageously discussed was the fear that British, French and American diplomats in the Swedish capital would by intrigue render all endeavors futile.

Dispatches from Berlin indicate that although the Reichstag parties in the main are supporting the government, considerable political unrest is prevalent and that strong efforts are being made to hold the socialists in line. The socialist organ in Berlin characterizes the situation as extraordinary serious.

Considerable Activity on Front.

Although the weather continues cold and much snow lies on the ground in northern France, there has been considerable activity by the infantry in the Arras sector, in Flanders and on the eastern part of the front along the Moselle river. Near Bullecourt the British have recaptured in a counter-attack the sap taken from them Saturday by the Germans. There were intermittent artillery duels Sunday along the entire battle front.

In the Italian theatre the big guns of both sides are hammering away at the lower Piave river. Several attempts by the Austro-Germans to make headway with small detachments between the Brenta and the Piave rivers were repulsed.

INCREASED DEMURRAGE RATES

To Promote More Prompt Unloading of Freight Cars—Rates Will Go Up 50 to 100 Per Cent.

Washington Dispatch, Jan. 6.

To promote more prompt unloading of freight cars Director General McAdoo today established new general demurrage rates for domestic traffic, effective January 21, continuing the present two days free time, but providing for increases ranging from 50 to 100 per cent in charges thereafter.

The director general appealed to shippers and consignees to co-operate in releasing cars to meet the national emergency and to make special efforts, even before the higher demurrage charges go into effect, to clear terminals as a contribution to the success of the war. The necessity for action was emphasized by a report to him from A. H. Smith, assistant director general in charge of operations east of the Mississippi river that "accumulation is increasing at points east of Pittsburgh and Buffalo." Mr. Smith reported that the situation was due largely to cold weather, but that sickness among trainmen and engineers and scarcity of labor has necessitated extensive curtailment of train service.

New Rates \$3 to \$10 Daily.

The new demurrage rates, approved by the inter-State Commerce commission on request of the director general are \$3 per day for the first day after the two free days; \$4 for the second day and \$1 additional for each schedule day until the charge per day reaches \$10. This maximum then will be charged for every day or fraction thereafter. Existing demurrage rates in most sections of the country are \$1 for the first day after the first two days free time; \$2 for the second day, \$3 for the third day; \$5 for the fourth day and for each day thereafter. Even these rates are several times higher than those which prevailed a year ago, and which were raised last spring when congestion on eastern railroads became acute. Much higher rates are charged on the Pacific coast and in several other districts.

Death of Mr. Mack Broadwell.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

St. Paul, R. L. Jan. 5.—Mr. Mack Broadwell, aged 77 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Broadwell, died Wednesday, December 27, after suffering for two months with heart trouble. Deceased was a member of Regan Methodist church and was a model young man.

ENGLAND'S WAR AIMS

Stated in Broadest and Most Specific Manner by Premier—What British Nation and Empire Would Regard as Basis of Just and Durable Peace.

Press Summary, Jan. 6.

Great Britain's war aims were set forth Saturday by Premier Lloyd-George in the broadest and at the same time most specific manner in which they have yet been stated. In one of the most striking and comprehensive utterances of the war the premier made it clear what the British nation and empire would regard as a just and durable peace. This, he declared, must be achieved by the establishment of the sanctity of treaties, territorial adjustments on the basis of self-government and the limitation of armaments guaranteed by an international organization.

Great Britain was not fighting, said the premier, to disrupt Germany, destroy Austria-Hungary or take Turkey's capital or her home lands from her. The desire, instead, he insisted, was to turn Germany from her schemes of military domination to beneficent tasks in the world and to settle the territorial questions of the war in a way that would do justice to the various nationalities affected.

In effect a reply to and rejection of the peace terms of the Central powers as voiced by their spokesman recently at Brest-Litovsk, the premier's speech was for the most part, an affirmative utterance. In great detail he went into the many problems calling for solution if the peace he had in mind was to be forthcoming.

Thus, he indicated, Belgium must be completely restored and reparation made to her as far as possible; France must have the wrong of 1871—the taking from her of Alsace-Lorraine—righted; an independent Poland must be established, including all of Polish nationality who desire to join in it; the peoples of such regions as Arabia, Palestine, Mesopotamia and Armenia, who have been under Turkish domination, must have their separatist conditions recognized; the wishes and interests of the natives of the German colonies must be primarily regarded by the peace conference; the claims of Italy for re-union for those of her own race and language must be regarded as vital; Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro must be restored.

All these and other like adjustments, the premier showed, would be carried out in accordance with the principle of self-government or the consent of the governed, the enunciation of which may be taken as the keynote of his speech. This form of settlement, he declared, should replace the old system of negotiations at a council table by a few schemers trying to promote the interests of one dynasty or another.

Regret that Russia was no longer fighting on the side of the Allies was expressed by the premier, who declared only Russia's own people could save her now from falling ultimately under Prussian domination.

In beginning, the premier pointed out that he was speaking not merely for the British government. He had been at pains to consult representative opinion of all sections of thought before framing his utterances, and thus was speaking the mind of the nation and the empire.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS

Meeting of Farmers Union in Lumberton January 9—Fertilizer Matters to be Discussed.

Every Farmers' union member in the county and other farmers as well are urged to be in Lumberton Wednesday of this week. A meeting of the county union will be held in the court house at 11 a. m. A representative of a leading fertilizer company is expected to be present and it will be to the interest of farmers generally to be present. Don't forget the date and be on hand.

F. GROVER BRITT,

Secretary-Treasurer Robeson Farmers Union.

U. S. Aviators Drop Bombs Over Enemy Lines.

With the American Army in France, Jan. 5, (By the Associated Press)—United States aviators have flown over the German battle lines and dropped bombs, in conjunction with British and French pilots. The flight of the Americans virtually was a reprisal for the killing of two American wood cutters during a German bombing expedition a week ago.

Through the courtesy of the British and French flying authorities, the American aviators also have taken part in observation and photographic work. It is not thought advisable to name the places where the American flow on the bombing expedition, but it was well beyond the German air defense lines at the front.

The date for the opening of the public schools of Greenville, S. C., following the Christmas holidays has been advanced to February 4, one month later than the original time set, on account of the shortage of coal.

Jim Newsom of Garvin, Okla., was rushed to the Federal jail at Muskogee, Okla., Thursday to escape a mob that was forming to attack him for a statement in which he is alleged to have said: "It would tickle me to death to see the Kaiser whip the President of the United States." Newsom was given a hearing before a U. S. commissioner who fixed his bond at \$1,000, and as he was unable to furnish it he was placed in jail.

MAILING OF QUESTIONNAIRES COMPLETED

All Mailed Out by Today by Local Board—Registrants Executing Questionnaires Promptly—Classing Registrants—Only Those in Class One Likely to be Called Out This Year—Those Who Have Become 21 Since Last June May Have to Register.

The work of mailing out questionnaires to the 2,068 registrants in Robeson district No. 1 has been completed. The assistance of a number of local people made it possible for the board to get the questionnaires mailed out by today, the time when all were supposed to be mailed.

Registrants have been prompt to fill out their questionnaires and file them with the board and it is expected that all will have been filled out and returned by Saturday night of this week. Local attorneys and other citizens of the town have been on duty, a certain number each day, at the court house for the purpose of aiding registrants in filling out their questionnaires and registrants have thronged the court house each day seeking assistance. No charge has been made for this service.

Classing Registrants.

Members of the board have held nightly sessions since December 15 for the purpose of classing the registrants and already around 600 have been classed. The board will continue to work each night until the task of classing all registrants has been completed. When a registrant is classed he is notified as to the class he has been placed in by the board. It is expected that the work of classification will be completed by February 15.

Only Men in Class 1 Likely to be Called.

Mr. T. L. Johnson, chairman of the exemption board of Robeson district 1, says he is receiving numerous inquiries from landowners and tenants wanting to learn whether or not it would be safe for registrants to start a crop this year. Mr. Johnson says that all who are not placed in class 1 will not be called into service this year. He says that it is not at all probable that any from class 2, 3, 4 or 5 will be called before they can make and harvest a crop.

Others May Have to Register.

Congress is expected to pass a bill soon which will require all men who have become 21 years old since the date of registration to register, and they will be classed. Most of these will of course be placed in class 1 and in this way it is expected that enough men will be in class 1 to supply the men needed for some time.

Personals From Red Springs—Glimpse of Passing Throng.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, Jan. 5.—Mr. Leak Lovin left Saturday for Durham, where he is attending school at Trinity Park. Miss Martha McLeod has returned to Hamlet, where she teaches school. Misses Georgia and Sallie Pearsall have returned from Maxon where they visited Misses Sallie and Lillian Austin.

Mr. Cary Snoddy of Camp Sevier is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Snoddy.

Mr. James Davis of Fort Cashwell spent Friday and Saturday with friends here.

Miss Francis Rhodes has returned to her home in Lynchburg, Va., after spending Christmas with Miss Georgia Pearsall.

Miss Clara de Vane has returned to Rock Hill, S. C., where she is a member of the Winthrop faculty.

Lieut. W. P. McKay of Camp Sevier is spending a while with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank McKay.

Miss Alice Hall left Sunday for Spartanburg, S. C., where she is a senior at Converse college.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards of Goldsboro are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Parker.

Miss Grace Singleton left Friday for Roanoke, Va.

Miss Genevieve McMillan is spending a while in Charlotte.

Miss Sallie Coley of Wilson is visiting her sister Mrs. John Thrower.

Miss Glennie Graham has returned to her school at Glennwood.

Mr. Willie Snoddy left Saturday for Bedford City, Va., where he is attending Randolph Macon academy.

Mr. Jas. G. Wellans has returned from Culpepper, Va.

Mr. Jas. Hall has returned to his school at Glennwood.

Miss Almena McLeod left Saturday for Goldsboro to resume her work in the graded school.

Baptist Million-Dollar Fund.

The central committee of the North Carolina Baptist convention has received report that the million-dollar fund that it is proposed to raise through cooperation with the general education board of New York be apportioned on the basis of \$300,000 cash to Wake Forest and Meredith colleges, \$150,000 to Chowan college, and \$150,000 to be divided among the denominational high schools. Rev. C. J. Thompson has been made financial agent for the campaign that is to be carried on among Baptists and their friends to raise the State's part on this fund.

The trial of Dr. Asa W. Chamberlain, charged with the murder of his brother Judge Albert P. Chamberlain, whose dismembered body was found buried in the yard at the home of the alleged murderer 14 miles west of Goochland, Va., late in October, began at Goochland last Wednesday.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—License has been issued for the marriage of Olden Hayes and Viola Watts.

—Mr. J. A. Raine was able to be out Saturday after being confined to his room for two weeks.

—People coming to town from the country report the roads in bad shape as a result of the snow and freeze.

—The board of county commissioners, the county road board and the board of education are holding regular first-Monday meetings here today.

—Mrs. W. S. Britt is sick at Kershaw, S. C., where she went to visit relatives. She was taken ill after arriving at Kershaw and Mr. Britt has been with his wife for several days.

—Rev. Herbert A. Grantham, pastor of Trinity Episcopal church, has been appointed and sworn in as a member of the advisory committee of the army exemption board in Robeson district 1.

—Mr. F. L. Nash was elected secretary-treasurer of the Robeson Building & Loan Association at a recent meeting of the directors. Mr. Nash succeeds Mr. C. V. Brown, who resigned.

—A horse belonging to Mr. Bill Barnes fell down on Elm street late Friday afternoon. The horse slipped on the frozen pavement. The only damage was the breaking of a new wagon shaft.

—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Thompson moved Saturday from Lumberton to Mr. Thompson's farm at Long Branch church, 5 miles south of town. Mr. Thompson looked after Messrs. White & Gough's farms last year.

—It is understood that Mr. A. J. Holmes will arrive at an early date to take charge of the Bell & Jordan jewelry store. Mr. Holmes had charge of the store here for several months and has been at Dunn since leaving Lumberton.

—The condition of Mrs. C. M. Britt of R. 4 from Lumberton, who recently underwent an operation at the Johns Hopkins hospital, Baltimore, is reported as improving. She was accompanied to Baltimore by Dr. W. L. Grantham.

—Mr. A. W. McLean of Lumberton is a member of the State committee on war relief. The other members of the committee are Clement Manly of Winston-Salem, chairman; Judge W. P. Bynum of Greensboro, and Attorney General J. S. Manning.

—Mr. J. A. Carlyle and family moved last week from Oxford to Mr. Carlyle's farm near Raft Swamp church. Mr. Carlyle had been manager of the farm at the Oddfellows orphanage at Oxford for the last 15 months. His many friends will be pleased that he has returned to Robeson.

—Warrants have been issued against Stephen Epps, James Pope, Ernest Tilly and David Shooter, all young boys, charging them with being implicated in turning in false fire alarms. The hearing was set for today, but was postponed until Wednesday of next week on account of the fact that Epps was out of town.

—Mr. Walter Meares, one of Robeson's selectmen stationed at Camp Jackson, spent last week here visiting relatives. Mr. Meares says the boys at Camp Jackson are anxious to go to France. He said that if the boys were allowed to volunteer to go right away three-fourths of those in training at Camp Jackson would fall in line.

—A Maxwell automobile belonging to Mr. J. A. Raine and driven by Curtis Stephens, colored, turned turtle and landed in a six-foot ditch about three miles from town on the Creek road Saturday morning. The car turned over while crossing a bridge. The driver was the only occupant of the car and he escaped uninjured. The car was not badly damaged.

—Rev. Herbert W. Baucom has resigned as pastor of the Baptist church here served at Morehead city for some years and on the 15th of this month will sail for France to engage in army Y. M. C. A. work. Mrs. Baucom and their three children have moved to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Tyner, at Lowe, where they will make their home while Mr. Baucom is in France.

—Messrs. White & Gough have discontinued the store on the corner of fourth and Elm streets, which they had conducted since they bought the Townsend Bros. stock several months ago, and moved the goods to their main store. Mr. L. C. Townsend, a member of the former firm of Townsend Bros., who has had charge of the branch store for Messrs. White & Gough, expects to remodel the store and open up business for himself there in a few days.

150 Cotton Mills Closed for a Day.

Approximately 150 cotton mills in the Piedmont section of North and South Carolina were closed down from noon Friday until this morning on account of fuel shortage and low water in the streams of the section from which the hydro-electric power furnished them by the Southern Power Co. is developed. Announcement that this step would be taken was made from the offices of the company in Charlotte Thursday. This meant the loss of only one full day by the mills as they close down from noon Saturday to Monday morning under normal conditions.

Richard Billings, a New York millionaire, Friday made the State a present of \$46,000 worth of first mortgage bonds of the Elkin & Allegheny railroad. He was moved to this action by Gov. Bickett, who wrote him a few days ago upon learning that Mr. Billings contemplated withdrawing further support from the mountain road.